MATURE

the Adventures of Captain Jack

$1.00
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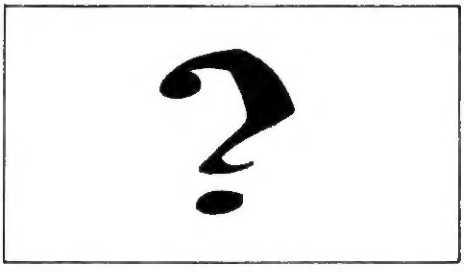
No. 8

"ESCAPE!"

LAST TIME AS YOU MAY RECALL....

Elenora has gained controlling interest in the Maynard family's cosmetic company. Internal turmoil is expected.



The disappearance of Bo and Rick has everyone in Seaview on edge. The search continues, but no news has come in since they were spotted in a Howard Johnson's restaurant in Fargo last July.

Charles attempted to silence Barbara as she discovered the horrible secret of his previous life as a Nazi war criminal. He shoots instead his only daughter Nikki when she pushed Barb out of the line of fire, saving her life.

Meanwhile, the custody fight over Baby Hooper rages on...

THE CAPTAIN'S CREW

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YES, KIDS. I, TOO, HAD BEEN SEDUCED DOWN THAT SOAP-OPERA-ROAD-TO-RUIN WHEN BUT A MERE YOUTH. IF ONLY I'D HAVE TAKEN THAT CORRESPONDENCE COURSE AND BECOME A COMIC ARTIST LIKE MY SAINT-LIKE MOTHER WANTED.
NOW I'M DESTINED TO A LIFE OF MAKING LITTLE ONES OUT OF BIG ONES. TROOLY THE WEED OF CRIME BEARS BITTER FRUIT!

UM! UNH!
CAPTAIN! WAKE UP!

WARDEN! I CAN'T EAT THIS SLOP!
HUH? UH... WHA?
EASY, CAP! YOU'RE HAVIN' A BAD DREAM!
OH, IT'S YOU, ADAM! YEAH, I WAS HAVING A BAD DREAM ALRIGHT! I DREAMT THAT I WAS IN JAIL!
BUT CAPTAIN...
...YOU ARE IN JAIL.
OH, YEAH.
the cases of SHURSHOT HOLMES
714
'ESCAPE!'
-a Captain Jack adventure!
by MIKE KAZALEH
©1986

I DON'T THINK I'M GOING TO BE ABLE TO GET BACK TO SLEEP....

HEY, YOU! GUARD!
IS THERE ANYTHING TO READ IN THIS JOINT?
THE NAMES HARVEY!
I GOT SUMPIN' HANGON.

"SHURSHOT HOLMES AND THE BOUNDERS OF HASKETTVILLE"?
YEAH. HOW 'BOUT THAT? EARLIER HE GAVE ME "THE CASE OF THE PAISLEY CLAW". I THINK HE'S A HOLMES FANATIC!

-LIKES SHURSHOT HOLMES, DOES HE?
HMMMM..

SAY, ADAM. THIS SHURSHOT HOLMES IS RATHER A FINE DETECTIVE, WOULDN'T YOU SAY?
HUH? OH, YEAH. SURE. HE'S A PRETTY GOOD DETECTIVE.

HRMPH! PRETTY GOOD?! HE'S JUST ONE OF THE WORLD'S FINEST, THAT'S ALL!
YESSIR! ONE OF THE WORLD'S FINEST...
..PROBABLY THE GREATEST...
..NEXT TO...
..RICK RACY!
WHAT?!?

ARE YOU NUTS?!
HOLMES IS TEN TIMES THE DETECTIVE RACY IS!
OH, I'M NOT SAYING HOLMES ISN'T GOOD, BUT HE CAN'T TOUCH RACY AND YOU KNOW IT!
'TAIN'T SO! 'TAIN'T SO! 'TAIN'T SO! 'TAIN'T SO!
OH, C'MON! HOLMES COULDN'T HAVE LASTED TEN SECONDS AGAINST SOME OF THE GREAT RICK RACY VILLIANS!
"Mole Mole!"
"Flat Hop!"
"Platy Pus!"
"...OR FER CRISSAKES, MRS. PLATY PUSS!"
MRS. PLATY PUSS? WHAT WAS SO TOUGH ABOUT HER?
WHAT WAS SO TOUGH ABOUT HER?! I GET CHILLS JUST THINKING ABOUT IT! LISTEN....

"..THERE SHE WAS! EIGHT-FEET TALL AND POWERFUL! SHE WAS BENT ON REVENGE AGAINST RACY FOR CAUSING THE DEATH OF HER BELOVED PLATY PUSS!"
"SHE TOOK HIM TO HER HIDEOUT AND CHAINED RACY TO THE FLOOR!"
FRIGIDAIRE
FROST FREE FRIDGE
ICE.
COP.
"AND NOW OVER THE HELPLESS DETECTIVE, A HEAVY REFRIGERATOR, SUPPORTED ONLY BY TWO ONE-HUNDRED POUND CAKES OF ICE! AS THEY MELTED, RACY WOULD SLOWLY BE CRUSHED TO HIS DOOM!

AND YOU EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE HE COULD GET OUT OF THAT MESS ALIVE?
OF COURSE!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! NOBODY COULD DO IT! NOT EVEN HOLMES!
RACY DIO!
DIDN'T!
DID!
DIDN'T!
I COULD DO IT!
OH, YEAH?!
PROVE IT! I GOT HANDCUFFS! C'MON! SHOW ME!
NOW WAIT A MINUTE, DOC! I DIDN'T MEAN...
C'MON SMARTY! WE GOTTA 'FRIDGE IN THE LOUNGE!
NO! PLEASE! I DON'T KNOW WHAT COULD'VE COME OVER ME!
OH-HO NO! YOU'RE NOT GETTING OFF THAT EASILY! I'M GONNA SEE YOU ESCAPE, SAVVY?!

NOW WE'LL SEE WHO'S CLEVEREST, EH, JACK?
WHOA, YEAH!

NOW, ON WITH THE 'CUFFS!

UH, WAIT!

WAIT!? WHO SAYS "WAIT"?! WUFFO I SHOULD WAIT?

BE-BECAUSE... ..ER! BECAUSE YOU HAVEN'T GOT ANY ICE!

ICE!
HEY, THAT'S RIGHT! NO ICE! I GUESS YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO TAKE MY WORD ON THIS ONE!
LIKE HECK I WILL! I'M GOING TO THE KITCHEN AND I'M GONNA GET SOME ICE! YOU JUST WAIT! I'LL GET IT! DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT THAT!
GOOD JOB, ADAM! I WAS AFRAID YOU'D MISS YOUR CUE!
CAPTAIN, HOW DID RACY GET OUT OF THAT TRAP, ANYHOW?
POLICE
I DON'T KNOW... THE NEWSPAPER CHOSE THAT VERY DAY TO SEE IF ANYBODY WOULD COMPLAIN IF THEY STOPPED RUNNING "RICK RACY"!

TONIGHT
I THINK THE BEST THING TO DO UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES IS TO GET HERM AND JANET AND LAM OUT OF HERE BEFORE WE'RE MISSED....
Meanwhile....back in the jungle...
I DON'T LIKE IT, HERMAN! WE CAN'T BAIL OUT THE CAPTAIN, WE CAN'T EVEN PAY FOR OUR ROOM! WHAT ARE WE S'POSED TO DO?
CAP SAYS WE SHOULD DO NOTHING.
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
I SAID I'M GLAD WE'RE NOT HANGIN' 'ROUND, LOOK WHO'S COMING!
TONIGHT
TONIGHT
SATURATED FATS
GIVES A DEMONSTRATION OF
AT POOL

-YOU REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED THE **LAST** TIME WE RAN INTO HIM! SHEESH, WHAT A **GROUCH!** C'MON! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
>TONIGHT<
-WHERE DO YOU THINK **YOU'RE** GOING?
IZZAT SO?
IN THAT CASE WE'LL WAIT FOR HIM TO JUST **WALK** OUT!
GOING?! WE'RE LEAVING! AREN'T WE?
AAAHHH, WHERE'D YOU GET AN IDEA LIKE THAT?
-FROM YOU! YOU SAID... **CAPTAIN!** YOU AREN'T SERIOUSLY THINKING OF... BUT HE'S A **MANIAC!** AND BESIDES, THE **COPS!** OH, DON'T DO IT, CAPTAIN!

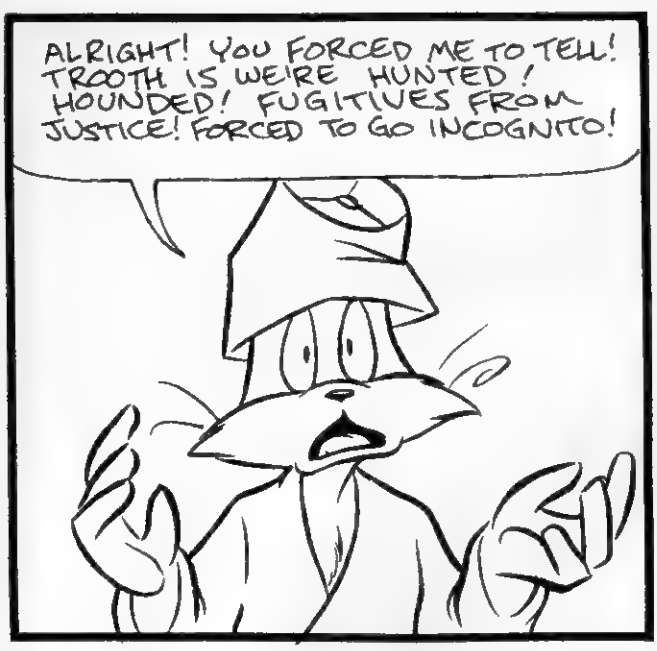
NOW, YOU OUGHTA KNOW WE COULDN'T LEAVE WITHOUT DROPPING IN ON OUR OLD PAL FATS! BUT FIRST WE'RE GOING TO STOP FOR A CHANGE OF CLOTHES!
..BUT... ..BUT THE MOON!

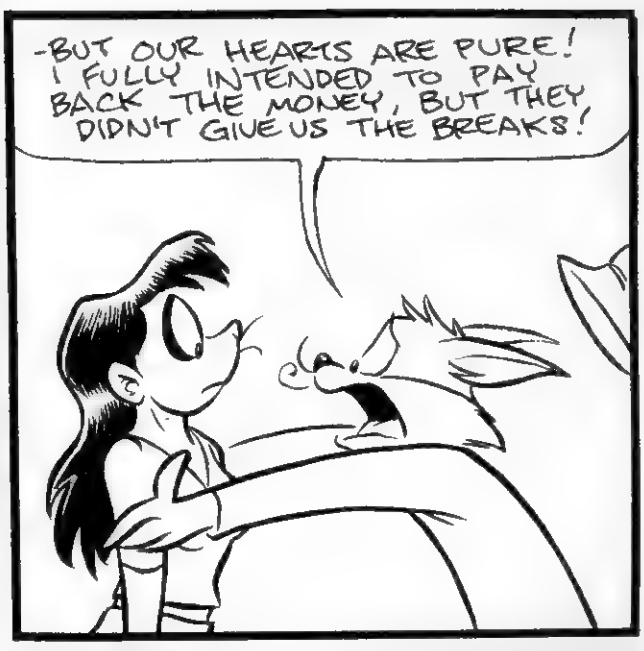
SLAM!
-SERIOUSLY, HERMAN.. IF HE DOESN'T DO SOMETHING PRETTY SOON WE'LL...
ADAM! DO YOU SEE IT ANYWHERE?

UH, NO...
WAIT! I SEE IT!

CAPTAIN!
YOU'RE BACK....
ZOOM!
.....
HERE IT IS! OUR TICKET TO OBSCURITY! WHEN I GET THROUGH, EVEN THE PHONE COMPANY WON'T KNOW US!
BOY! LOOKIT THIS STUFF! HERE! TRY THIS SWEATER ON!
BUT, BUT...
SAY! HOW DO YOU THINK I'D LOOK IN THIS SKIRT?
WELL, PEACHY, BUT...
HERE! THIS LOOKS LIKE IT MIGHT FIT YOU!
C'MON AWREDDY! TRY ON THAT SWEATER!
...BUT I LOOK TERRIBLE IN SALMON!

WHATTAYOONUTZ?! YOU'LL LOOK GREAT! TRUST ME! HEY LOOK AT THIS BLOUSE! ISN'T IT JUST TOO, TOO....
..6...7..
..8..9..
..10.....
GET OUTTA MY GRIP, YOU DRIP!!!
NOW, I HOPE FOR YOUR SAKE THAT YOU'VE GOT A DAMN GOOD EXCUSE FOR THIS FOOLISHNESS...
WELL, WELL! IT SEEMS ADAM AND I WERE ON OUR WAY TO A MASQUERADE, AND WE...
NO SOAP, HUH? WOULD YOU BELIEVE WERE CLOSET TRANSVESTITES?
PASTE!


ALRIGHT! YOU FORCED ME TO TELL! TROOTH IS WE'RE HUNTED! HOUNDED! FUGITIVES FROM JUSTICE! FORCED TO GO INCOGNITO!


-BUT OUR HEARTS ARE PURE! I FULLY INTENDED TO PAY BACK THE MONEY, BUT THEY DIDN'T GIVE US THE BREAKS!

Sob!

THEY LOCKED US UP! CAGED US! THEY PELTED US WITH ROCKS AND GARBAGE! THEY TOOK AWAY OUR FREEDOM!

WITHOUT FREEDOM, IS NOT LIFE BUT UNFLAVORED GELATIN? IMAGINE A LIFE WASTED MEMORIZING THE CRACKS IN THE CEILING! STALE BREAD AND WARM TAP WATER!

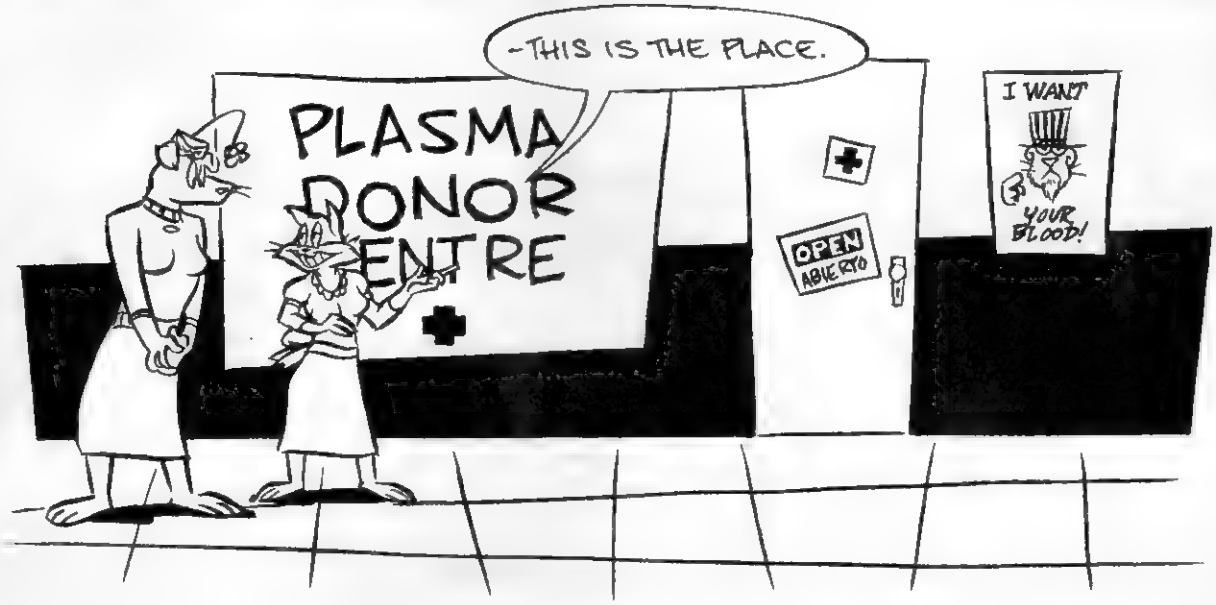
I BEG OF YOU, LET US PROVE OURSELVES! GIVE US THE CHANCE WE'VE BEEN DENIED!
Sob
Sob
Sob
sob

"MISTER JACK, IT'S AGAINST MY BETTER JUDGEMENT, BUT...."
CAPTAIN! I FEEL LIKE AN ABSOLUTE FOOL!
NONSENSE, HEN! YOU LOOK POSITIVELY STUNNING!
I DUNNO, HERM. EITHER HE'S UP TO SOMETHING, OR ELSE HE'S BANANAS.
NONSENSE, MY PET. I THINK HE'S JUST STUNNING!

-FIRST THING WE GOTTA DO IS, GET A LITTLE STAKE MONEY SO WE CAN ENGAGE OL' "LARD BOTTOM" IN A GAME. THIS MAY PROVE TO BE DIFFICULT...

OUR BELONGINGS WERE CONFISCATED, AND WE CAN'T AFFORD TO TELL ANYONE WHO WE ARE SO THAT LETS OUT MY LOAN CONNECTIONS.

..BUT DON'T WORRY! THERE'S STILL ONE WAY THAT A GUY WITH A LITTLE MOXIE CAN GET A HOLD OF SOME CASH....


-THIS IS THE PLACE.
PLASMA DONOR ENTRE
OPEN ABUERYO
I WANT
YOUR BLOOD!

ALL KIDDING ASIDE, GANG, GIVING BLOOD SAVES LIVES. IT SAVED MINE. MK-

CAN YOU IMAGINE THE NERVE OF HER? SHE WOULDN'T BELIEVE ME WHEN I SAID YOU DIDN'T HAVE ANY BLOOD!
HEADS UP, CAP! THERE'S A FAMILIAR FACE AT TEN O'CLOCK!
ER, MAY I...
...HELP YOU?
HEH, HEH.... I, UM... ..I SEEM TO HAVE MISPLACED THE JAIL, MA'AM.
I KNOW IT'S AROUND HERE SOME-PLACE..
IT'S RIGHT OVER HERE, CHUCKLES. OKAY?
OKAY.
FINE?
FINE.
DANDY!
PUSH.

HAR! I TOLD YA I'D GET THE ICE! ONLY I COULDN'T GET TWO ONE-HUNDRED POUND CAKES SO I GOT TEN TWENTY POUND SACKS OF ICE CUBES!
C'MON MISTER SMARTY PANTS ESCAPE ARTIST! LET'S SEE YA DO IT! YO! HEY! FELLAHS!
C'MON GUYS! QUIT KIDDING AROUND! WHERE ARE YA? FELLAHS?
UH, FELLAHS?
sugar is sweet, lemons do pucker, rats will escape, when the kop is a
Sucker!

AARR
RCH
HA!!!

OH, CRIKEY! THEY'VE ESCAPED! THE PRISONERS HAVE HESCAPED!
WHUDDAYEDOO?!? I'M IN TROUBLE! WAIT A MINUTE, I CAN'T PANIC! I MUST USE MY BRAIN!
I KNOW WHAT I'LL DO! I'LL CALL A PLEEZ-MAN! THAT'S WHAT MUM ALWAYS SAID TO DO!
CALLING ALL CARS! CALLING ALL CARS! LISTEN, GANG! BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR A SNEAKY CAT ANSWERING TO THE NAME OF HAPPY JACK! HE IS ACCOMPANIED BY A SIX-ANNA-HALF-FOOT ROBOT DOG! THEY HAVE JUST ESCAPED FROM THE SECTOR FIVE HOOSEGOW!
THEY ARE UNARMED, SO DO NOT HESITATE TO USE FORCE IN APPREHENDING!
ACTUAL CLOSET
THAT IS ALL, GANG!
OH, CAPTAIN! THEY'RE AFTER US! WHAT'LL WE DO?
SHUT UP, YOU IDIOT! THEY WON'T RECOGNISE US! WE'RE TOO WELL DISGUISED!
WANTED
DEAD.
LET'S JUST WORRY ABOUT FINDING US A POOL GAME!
Ah, yes! the pool game! let's look in on it, shall we?

ALRIGHT! NOW WHO'S GONNA PLAY ME A NICE LITTLE GAME OF POOL?
DON' LOOK A' ME, FATS!
YEAH! YOU'RE OUTA OUR LEAGUE, FATS!
YOU TOO GOOD!
YEAH!
AW, C'MON, GUYS! NOT EVEN A LITTLE PENNY-ANTE ROUND?
YOUR RECORD'S TOO CLEAN, FATS!
THE ONLY GUY WHAT EVER BEAT YA INNA LAST FIFTEEN YEARS WUZ OL' CAPPY JACK AT TRALFAZ STATION, REMEMBER?
YEAH, FATS! AND YOU BEAT THE LIVING BEJEEZUZ OUTTA HIM, TOO! YOU WUZ YELLIN' OVER AND OVER, "-TO THE MOON, ALICE! -TO THE MOON!"
THAT AIN'T FER US, FATS!
LOOK, YA BUNCHA PANZIES, I CAME ALL THE WAY OUT FROM PLANET ZLODNIK FER THIS!

-AIN'T THERE ONE O' YOU MAN ENOUGH TO PLAY?
YES. I'M MAN ENOUGH.
WE-EL, AT LAST! YOU CHUMPS COULD TAKE A LESSON HERE FROM MISTER.. ..MISTER...
MISS.
MISS VIRGINIA SLIM TO YOU.
RUMPUS ROOM
to be continued... -and how!

the Captain's LETTERBOX

Yo, Mike:

In reference to *Captain Jack* #5-7—hmm . . . interesting.

Herman and Janet make a nice couple. Of course, Herman is such a nice guy, he could probably get along with anybody. Janet doesn't seem too bad a person, so no problem. Even Bub seems to have accepted the pair-up, eh?

I really loved the scenes leading up to and including Bub's entrance on page 9, and the highlight of the whole book to me, artwise, was page 20. The scenes from pages 24-28 are classic. This book is the best of the series so far, at least to me.

I can't say I care for all the bare-breast and crotch shots of Janet so far, especially those wild scenes in #5. But it's your book, so if that's how you want it, more power to you. You'll still get my hard-earned $2, as long as you keep Herman and Bub on the move.

One last thing—I loved the cover to #7, especially the new logo design. Outstanding!

Thom Cuddy
APO New York

Dear Mike Kazaleh,

GARSH! Whatta *neat* comic *Capt. Jack* is!! When I sawr it in *Critters*, I knew I'd hafta buy it. I wuz right!

After #1, you went into a little character dev'l'pm'nt in #2 w/ Adam. I thot it was all pretty well done. Two things: "It's okay to talk about it butcha just can't slow it," huh? #5 blew that . . . (but that comes later. . . .) and "Shorty Lives!" *Way tuh go!* (Now if I could just get ridda this *Guitar 4 sale* to get the $ to get these *drums* outta my *typewriter*. . . .). #3: liked the God bit. Not much else to say; wuz good.

Issue #4 wuz tecknickly nice, whut wif' alla type an' layout, but seemed a liiiiiittle flat in spots, a little formula-ized. Liked Bevis & Morvis, the *dingbats*. Glad ta seeya not stickin' to the av'erge funny animal. (Lyrics were great, *do it—release a record!!!*)

Issue #5 wuz real *Zorch!!!*, wif's capital ZEE!!! It wuz even gettin' real . . . *touchin'*, whut w/ things like the big bottom panel on page 11, an the entire page 20! As 4 pages 28-30, I don't think I've ever seen that kinda' material handled so tast'ly, an' so nicely! Whew! Wotta nice comic (But you *did* show *IT!*) And last but not least is #6, the latest ish. Good tie-up to last one. Page #19, panel 4, Happy Jack showed real strength, made me happy, as he has been basickly ignored 'til now in that dept. Us'ly just shouts a lot. . . .

Well. There it is. Now to follow is two good things, & one bad one: (1.) Love yer brushwork. Gettin' better; nice & flowin' (2.) Covers are *Zorch*, too. Colour, design etc. (#5 is my fav, tho; I wanna poster!) (1B.) All characters've been developed 'cept *Jack*!! It's his book, & he's basickly been just a figurehead!!! (cept 4 above mention). *PLEASE RECTIFY!!*

Thanx for bein' who you is bein'.

P.S. Pages 25-31 were nice, but rather filler-ish.

Chris Larason
Monroe, LA

[For you and all those others who wondered why The Captain was hardly ever in his own book, we presented this special "All-Jack" issue! Enjoy! —MK]

Dear Captain Jack,

I first encountered the Captain and his crew on the pages of *Critters*. Despite the funny story, I forgot all about your magazine until #5. After flipping through, I decided this was the comic for me and paid the eight dollars for back issues 1-4 so I could read this thing from the beginning.

Captain Jack is great. Adam Fink has the right blend of seriousness and a lecherous eye for the ladies (Android or otherwise). Herman . . . well, there is a lot that could be said about Herman, but it is enough to say there is a lot of Herman in all of us. He is the character that I most identify with. Because even if he is a bit nerdy, Beelzlebub provides the essential spark, with those barbed pranks of his, that prevents Herman's life from settling too deeply in his groove.

Beezlebub is hilarious. The little running joke that only Herman or Adam can see him makes me laugh every time. Poor Adam, always having his circuits checked when he talks about seeing the little guy with the pointy tail.

Now a word about Janet. WOW! She just knocked me out! I am a real fan of anthropomorphics, but the problem with Capt. up to this point was it was too much of a "buddy" comic. The comic didn't have any animals of the female persuasion.

We need our funny animal heroes. Like Usagi Yojimbo. But I like the ladies too. Lovely creatures like Vicky Feldhyser (now there is a vixen for you!) or Erma Felna. I hope we can soon add Janet to that list. I think she is worth keeping around.

Is this going to be one of those travelin' salesman & the farmer's daughter jokes? The poor Raccoon-girl would do almost anything to get off that planet. What with only her farmer father for company, no wonder she is all cranky and out of sorts. Enter Herman Feldman, who probably never had a girl in his life, much less one like Janet. Great; just great!

One question: In *Captain Jack* #2 there was an Android dog named Lela. She and Adam had a go-round. Lela and Janet look an awful lot alike. Any comment?

Steven McAllister
Kalamazoo, MI

[No comment. —MK]

Dear Mike:

Hoo-ha! The best issue of *Captain Jack* yet! (Number 5, "The Travelling Salesman and the Farmer's Daughter.") I wonder how many people will be put off by the cover, which had nothing to do with the story. . . (Ungh! indeed, sir!) (Oh, yes, I also wonder if you're ever going to develop the "Herman Is Dead" adventure you started in #3.)

So: did I write to complain? Heck no: I'm happier with this story than with any other comic so far this month! Your art amazes me: it looks, at first, uneducated glance, simple and naive; when I look more closely, I am amazed by how expressive it is. And the story: lovely. I was near to tears myself at the emotional crunch on page 11. The story is truly beautiful. (Well, okay, I fell a little in love with Janet myself.)

I'm with you to the end. Thank you.

Jefferson P. Swycaffer
San Diego, CA

Mike—

I've been following the adventures of Captain Jack and they have been giving me *great pleasure*!! Number 5 was a treat! I especially got a chuckle

DEAR MR. KAZALEH:

30. OCT '86
Allston, Usa.

I LOVE YOUR STUFF.

WHY? NOT JUST BECAUSE IT'S FUNNY, THOUGH IT IS THAT IN FULL MEASURE. NO, I LOVE IT BECAUSE IT IS SUCH A FULL STORY. IT IS NOT A SHALLOW STRING OF GAGS. IT HAS PLOT, PATHOS, INTELLIGENCE AND LOVE. "THE DREAM" IN #6 PROMPTED ME TO WRITE THIS. NO WORDS, BUT SUCH A WONDERFUL, WARM STORY. TRUE COMICS. IT'S GREAT! WHAT A CONTRAST TO THE X-MORONS AND OTHER SUCH STUFF GLUTTING THE STANDS. KEEP EXPERIMENTING, KEEP GROWING. I WILL EAGERLY AWAIT YOUR FURTHER WORKS. KEEP IT UP! YOU HAVE A FAN FOR LIFE

IN Kjartan Arnósson,
"The Comics Fiend"
Allston / MA

out of Bonzo Dog Boys reference (me being a Neil Innes clone and all. . .) and the *Barnaby* reference ("Cushlamochree!") You name dropper, you!!

Just a fan lettin' ya know he's havin' a good time! Much success!

The Reet
Fairbanks AK

To Mike Kazaleh:

At this point in time (and to my great joy), I have a copy of every bit of *Captain Jack* that has been published, through keeping a sharp eye open and by ordering #1 directly (I started with #2). I am not a letter-writing person; however, after #7 has sunk in, it's reached the point where I can't help but write. Discovering that you were indirectly responsible for *Megaton Man* (another of my favorites) both surprised me and increased my already high opinion of you.

I got the bit about Bridie Murphy, but didn't understand the "All Bub Orchestra" reference. I found it hilarious, even though I only understood half of it. Personally, I'm not sure Herman actually "developed" Bub, since some things (the references to Bub having met Lamont Cranston and Bub calling the Astral Plane his old stomping grounds) seem to imply that Bub had a previous existence independent of Herman. I really liked Bub's (and Adam's) reaction when Lela could indeed see "the little guy with the margarita," and also Bub's reaction in #3 to meeting God. If the Almighty is actually like that, then I have no qualms at all about the afterlife.

In #4, I liked the narrator's line about it "being an awfully short comic book"; however, I was disappointed on pages 13 and 14 by the loss of the illusion of reality. In my opinion, characters aware that they are in a comic book only belong in parodies. (It's not *that* bad, it's just a pet peeve.)

And then came #5—for MATURE readers only! (I read it anyway.) *Captain Jack* seems to be turning into a serious book with plenty of humor, rather than a funnybook. All I can say is that, in my opinion, this approach is perfect! An excellent touch was how the facts learned in #6 added to my understanding of character motivation and behavior in #5. The dream in #6 was great, showing Herman already thinks of himself and Janet as man and wife.

Issue #7 resolved my main worry about Herman and Janet. I hope they stay together, because I think that Herman needs her and that Janet would have to be a fool to leave someone who loves her as much as I believe Herman does. In spite of my conern for these people (yes, people!), I was amused by the inside front cover of #7. Captain Jack Merchandise! Where do I write to order my ICBM?! Plus, this situation now seems to be at least a four-part story—or dare I hope that Captain Jack is turning into, gasp, a serial! (any objections won't be coming from me, for, as I mentioned before, I have every bit of Captain Jack published so far. Heh, heh, heh!) And, just in case I'm still being too subtle (?), I vote for long, involved, continued stories. (aw, come on, please, pretty please, huh?)

About the characters themselves, Adam was the first one I liked. He is uninhibited, lecherous ("Captain, sir! c'n I go hit the head?"), and generally a human (?) and likable guy. I've come to appreciate the Captain more with time; he seems to be a considerate and reasonable boss. ("Herman, is there a little man in the tub?!—Herman! Are you dead in there?—Ah, hah, hah, hah, hah, hah, hah, ha!") I really empathize with Herman and see a lot of myself in him. And as for Janet, Herman and I seem to have similar taste in women. I can't imagine Herman ever leaving Janet; I can't imagine myself leaving someone like Janet, either.

To finish up, I just have 3 questions:

1. What does Cushlamochree mean?

2. Why did you name the ship the Glass Onion? (Is it a joke of some kind?)

3. Just what exactly was Adam going to *do* with the Lava Lamp, *anyway*?

Charles E. Roe
San Angelo, TX

[1. "Cushlamochree" was an expostulation frequently uttered by Mr. O'Malley in the old Barnaby *comic strip. (Being reprinted again by Ballantine Books). Don't know if it's an authentic Irish expression, or just another of O'Malley's idiosyncrasies.*

2. "Glass Onion" was (and still is) an old Beatles tune. When I first sketched the ship, it looked like an onion with a glass bubble. "Glass Onion" immediately suggested itself.

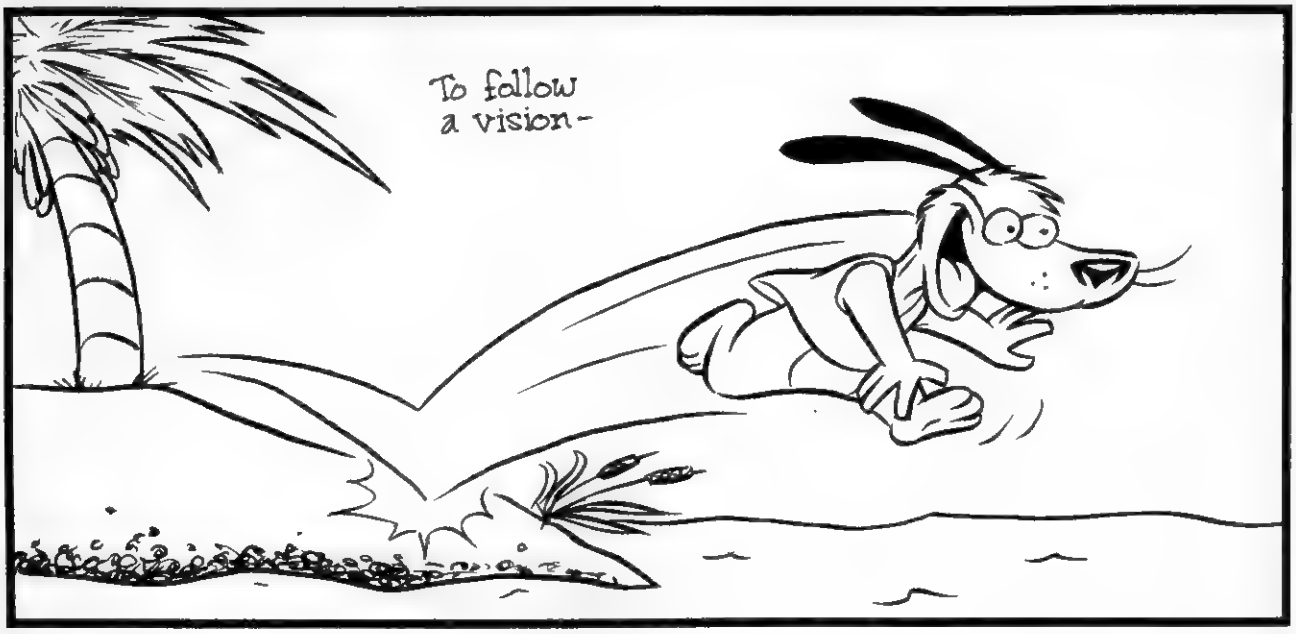
3. If you expect me to answer this one, you're nuts! I'm already under fire for being a smut peddler!

By the way, you can order your I.C.B.M. by sending ten boxtops from Captain Jack Crunch to this magazine. —MK]

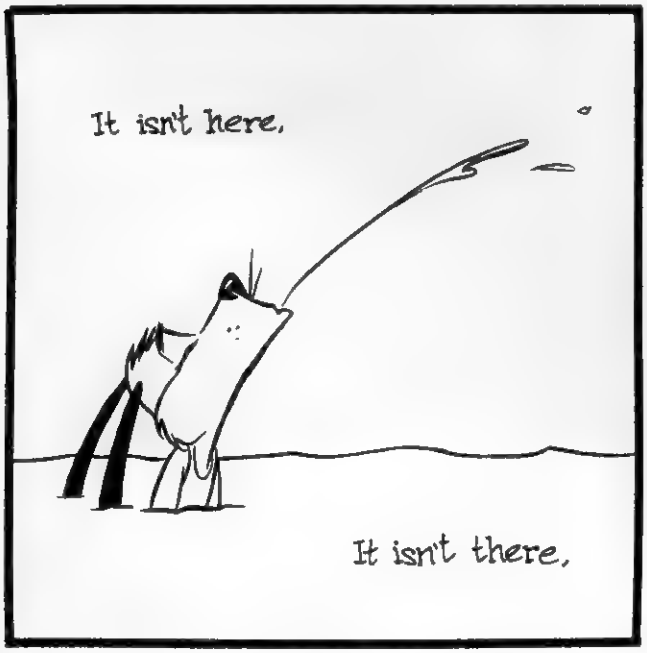
NEXT: THE COLOR OF FUNNY! *It's Captain Jack vs. Saturated Fats in the pool game to end all pool games! That's* Captain Jack *#9—on sale in late July—and don't forget to write us, care of CAPTAIN JACK LETTERS, 4359 Cornell Road, Agoura, CA 91301.*

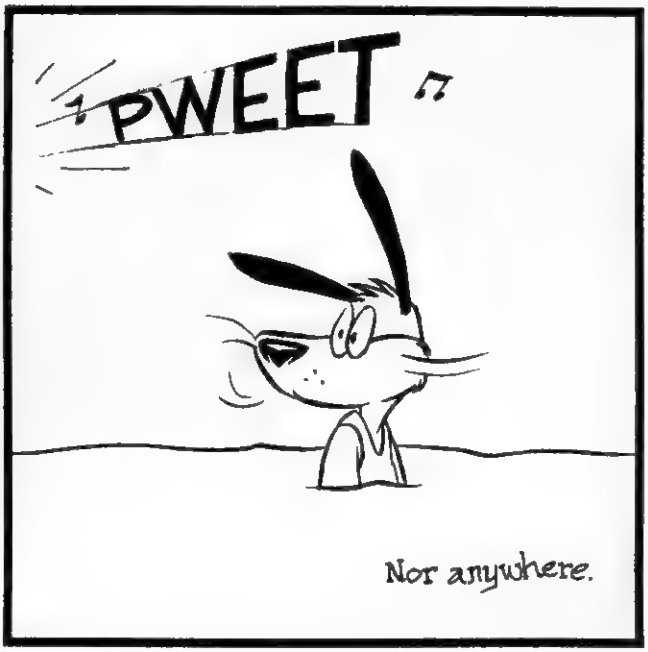
"LOVE and BANANAS"
There's nothing but bananas, up high in the tree-
Nothing but bananas, to satisfy me.
And I've been here all alone, on dirt so bare-
I wouldn't mind bananas, If you were there.

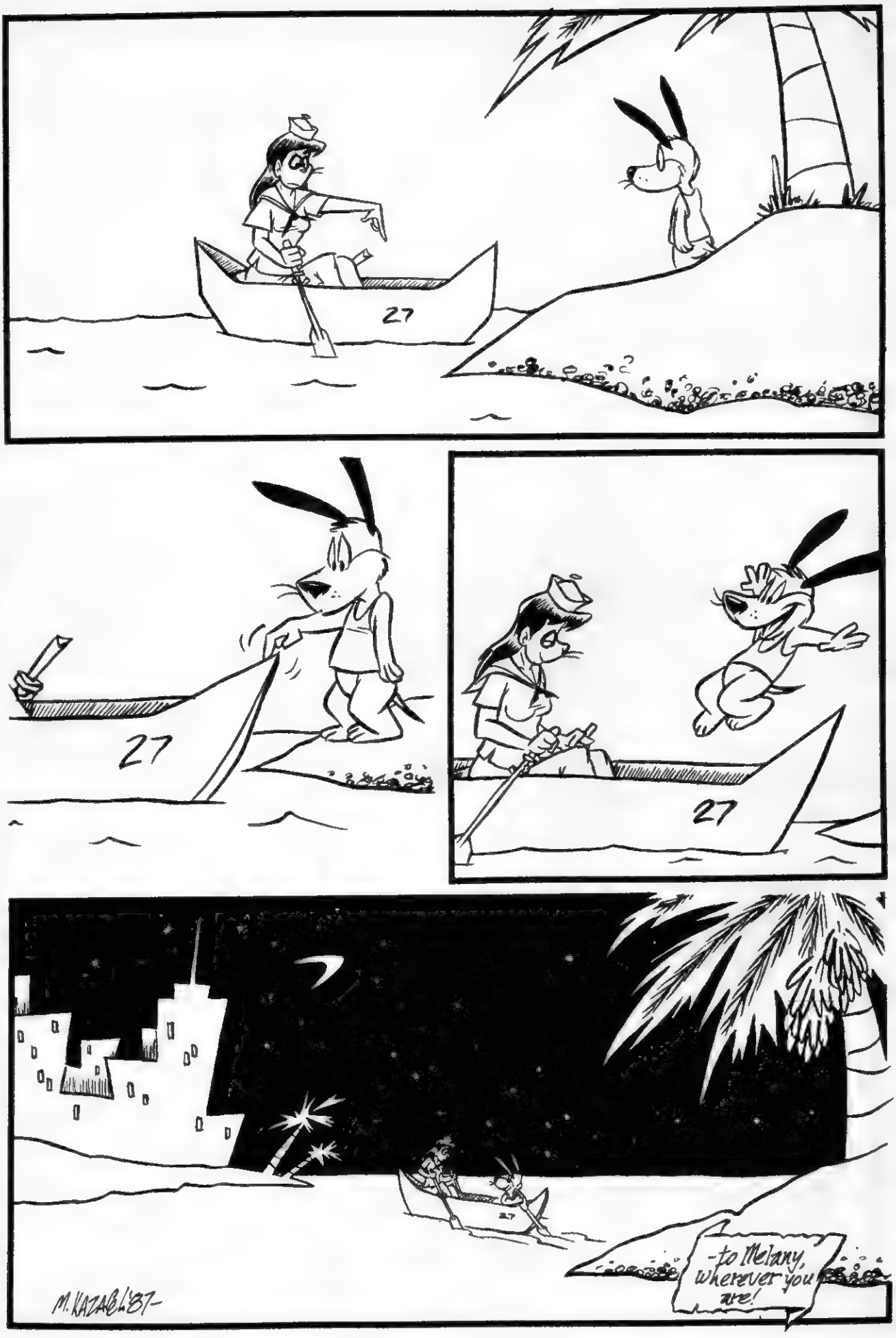
I'm looking all around,
I've looked everywhere..
WITH SINCERE APOLOGIES TO BOTTICELLI..


To follow
a vision-

That isn't there.
SPLASH.


It isn't here.
It isn't there.


PWEET
Nor anywhere.


27
27
27
-to Melany, wherever you are!
M. KAZAEL '87-

Would You Like To Have Sex With This Magazine?

I want you.
I want you to drop whatever you're doing...
Let go of your inhibitions...
And slip between my covers.
Then touch me.
Yes! That's the way!
Wet your expert finger with a little spittle and—oh—
Turn my pages....

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How can you resist mine?

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Here's what *Robert Crumb* has to say:
"I love this stuff!"

(Actually, he said it about another Fantagraphics Books title, not this one, but what the hell!)

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Adventures of Captain Jack #5: "Farmer Fred, I'm In Love With Your Daughter" Part 1: Arrival on Janet's planet.

Adventures of Captain Jack #6: Part 2 Herman and Janet decide to go away together.

Adventures of Captain Jack #7: Part 3: Beezlebub intrudes in Herman and Janet's relationship.

Adventures of Captain Jack #8: Pool hustling and more.

CRITTERS

Critters #4: *Gnuff* and *Birthright* continue, *Lionheart* premieres, and the first Ken Macklin cover painting!

Critters #5: *Birthright* continues, the first *Gnuff* novel concludes (with a cover), plus Stan Sakai's *Nilson Groundthumper*!

Critters #6: *Usagi Yojimbo* tale with cover, *Birthright* concludes, and the first *Firecracker Jack* by Mark Armstrong!

Critters #7: Gnuff returns in *Animal Graffiti*, Usagi Yojimbo, and *De Grand Wa-Zoo* by Sam Kieth!

Critters #8: *Jack Bunny* by cover artist Mark Armstrong, Templeton Kelly tribute, and *Lionheart* begins.

Critters #9: Hallowe'en issue with Gnuff behind a mask, Lionheart's nightmare, and Dog Boy.

Critters #10: *Usagi Yojimbo* cover and story, plus the continuations of *Gnuff* and *Lionheart*.

Critters #11: Special Christmas issue, featuring the conclusions of *Usagi Yojimbo, Gnuff*, and *Lionheart*, plus work by Mike Kazaleh, J. Holland and Ron Wilber, Mark Armstrong, Ty Templeton, Sam Kieth, Steve Lafler, and Ken Macklin. 68 pages!

Critters #12: *Birthright* returns, with a cover by Gallacci, plus Reed Waller and Kate Worley, and Sam Kieth!

Critters #13: *Gnuff* cover and 16-page chapter, plus *Birthright*, *Surfin' Neanderthals* by Mark Armstrong.

Critters #14: *Usagi Yojimbo* story and cover, plus *Birthright* and *Gnuff* continue.

Critters #15: *The Blue Beagle* and *Fission Chicken* both debut, and *Birthright* races on!

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Hugo #3: Hugo is abducted by mermaids and fights sharks.

MYRON MOOSE

Myron Moose Funnies #1: Lots of goofy snot jokes, plus parodies of Dr. Seuss and Uncle Wriggly books.

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Usagi Yojimbo #1: Usagi journeys back to his youth and tells how he became a samurai. Plus: Fujitake!

Usagi Yojimbo #2: Usagi goes into training and has his first duel. Plus: A new strip by Dave Thorne.

BOOKS

The Beast Is Dead: Magnificent 1945 French graphic novel chronicling World War II as fought by animals. Stunning full-color work; hardcover!

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MAGAZINES

Amazing Heroes #8: Behind the scenes of DC's *Captain Carrot* comic with Scott Shaw! and Roy Thomas. Plus a funny-animal pictorial.

Amazing Heroes #42: Funny-animal issue with Joshua Quagmire cover and interview. Plus: Arn Saba on Neil the Horse and Dave Sim on Cerebus!

Amazing Heroes #111: Ty Templeton (of *Critters*) interviewed. It's funny.

The Comics Journal #73: Carl Barks featured, with long retrospective.

The Comics Journal #81-82: Mammoth interview with Dave (*Cerebus the Aardvark*) Sim.

The Comics Journal #99: Long interview with Arn (*Neil the Horse*) Saba.

OTHER STUFF

Anything Goes #2: Classic Alan Moore/Donald Simpson strip about death of comics includes several pages of Mike Kazaleh funny-animal characters. Plus Sam Kieth!

Anything Goes #3: Featuring a full-color Captain Jack story by Mike Kazaleh, Cerebus vignette by Dave Sim, and Cerebus cover by Neal Adams.

Doomsday Squad #3: Full-color Usagi Yojimbo back-up by Sakai.

Doomsday Squad #5: Full-color Captain Jack back-up by Kazaleh.

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